

**Claim 39 (Withdrawn):** A process for producing a composite oxide, comprising the steps of:

preparing a plurality of aqueous solutions of metallic acid salts;  
adding the plurality of aqueous solutions successively to an alkaline aqueous solution, which can neutralize the total amount of the metallic acid salts, thereby generating precipitates; and

calcining the precipitates.

**Claim 40 (Withdrawn):** The process for producing a composite oxide according to claim 39, wherein the precipitates, which are generated successively, are subjected to an aging treatment while putting them in a suspension state in which water or a solution containing water serves as a dispersion medium, or in a system in which water is present sufficiently.

**Claim 41 (Withdrawn):** A process for producing a composite oxide, comprising the steps of:

preparing a plurality of aqueous solutions of metallic acid salts;  
mixing the respective aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts with an alkaline solution, thereby forming precipitates respectively;  
mixing the respective precipitates, thereby preparing a precipitates mixture; and  
calcining the precipitates mixture.

**Claim 42 (Withdrawn):** The process for producing a composite oxide according to claim 41, wherein at least one of the respective formed precipitates is subjected to an aging treatment while putting it in a suspension state in which water or a solution containing water serves as a dispersion medium, or in a system in which water is present sufficiently, and a precipitates mixture, in which the precipitates are mixed, is calcined.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a composite oxide, comprising the steps of:

preparing a plurality of aqueous solutions of metallic acid salts;  
mixing at least one of the aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts with an alkaline solution, thereby forming precipitates;  
subjecting at least one of the precipitates to an aging treatment while putting it in a suspension state in which water or a solution containing water serves as a dispersion medium, or in a system in which water is present sufficiently;  
adding the rest of the aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts to the formed precipitates thereafter, thereby further forming precipitates; and  
calcining the resulting precipitates subsequently.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The process for producing a composite oxide according to claim 43, before said calcining step, further comprising the step of: subjecting the resulting precipitates to an aging treatment while putting them in a suspension state in which water or a solution containing water serves as a dispersion medium, or in a system in which water is present sufficiently.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas, wherein a catalytic ingredient is included in at least one of the aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts set forth in claims 39.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas, wherein a catalytic ingredient is included in at least one of the aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts set forth in claims 41.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas, wherein a catalytic ingredient is included in at least one of the aqueous solutions of the metallic acid salts set forth in claims 43.